



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Julie Christopher, Commissioner

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Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging
Julie Christopher., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors,
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Bill Peterson,
Deputy Commissioner for Programs

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Medicaid Must Now Document Citizenship

CMS sent a letter to all state Medicaid directors on June 9th alerting them to new requirements for determining eligibility for Medicaid. Effective July 1st, all persons applying for Medicaid must now provide documentation of their citizenship. Although Medicaid has always required applicants to affirm their citizenship, CMS has now issued specific guidelines to states about the types of documents that must be presented by persons seeking to apply for benefits.

A copy of the letter can be found at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidEligibility/Downloads/SMD%20Letter%20Improved%20Documentation%20of%20Citizenship.pdf>

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Bill Peterson,
Deputy Commissioner for Programs

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: GAO Report on Disaster Preparedness

Following Hurricane Katrina, Congress asked the GAO (Government Accountability Office) to discuss federal and state efforts to plan and prepare for the needs of older persons during large scale emergencies. This report focuses on the problems experienced by hospitals and nursing homes.....but contains lessons for all of us. The following link will take you to both the full report as well as a one page summary:

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06790t.pdf>

VDA will be meeting with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) to discuss "vulnerable populations" during disaster planning. Although we are not yet sure where this will lead, it is important that we begin planning for the impact of hurricanes and flooding on our vulnerable clients.

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Bill Peterson,
Deputy Commissioner for Programs

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Grant Opportunity from the Internal Revenue Service

The IRS has grants for private or non-governmental public non-profit agencies or organizations, exempt under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code, to provide training and technical assistance to volunteers who provide free **tax counseling and assistance** to elderly individuals in the preparation of their Federal income tax returns. Grant funds may be used to reimburse volunteers for out-of-pocket expenses including transportation, meals, and other expenses incurred by them in providing tax counseling assistance at locations convenient to the taxpayers.

Grant applications are due August 1st. The average grant awarded will be in the \$35,000 - \$40,000 range. The following link will provide more information:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1101.pdf>

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Care Coordination

Uniform Assessment Instrument

Training for utilizing the Uniform Assessment Instrument is again being offered through the Virginia Institute for Social Services Training Activities (VISSTA). The two day course emphasizes methods to obtain complete assessment of an individual's strengths, needs and family and community resources. Classes are scheduled for July 6-7, 2006 in Richmond and September 14-15, 2006 in Abingdon. CEUs are available for completing the course. Registration information is available on the VISSTA website: <http://www.vcu.edu/vissta/>.

I&A, Care Coordination Training

The I&A/Care Coordination training was held on May 19, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Select in Fredericksburg. Faye Cates, VDA Program Coordinator and Vice-President of the Virginia Alliance of Information and Referral Specialists (VAIRS), once again collaborated with that organization to host an informative training. A very successful training was the result of many hours of labor on the part of Ms. Cates. Attendees should be well informed as to how to prepare themselves, their families, Area Agencies on Aging and their clients for any future natural disaster or acts of terrorism.

Morning session speakers, recruited by Ms. Cates and Ellen Nau, focused on disaster training. Cathy Spriggs, Director of Long-Term Care at Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia and Seyoum Berhe, Director of Refugee Resettlement for the Diocese of Arlington reflected on their experiences with Katrina Evacuees. Suzanne Simmons, Volunteer Coordination Program Monitor for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) spoke on the Virginia Citizens Corps Program. Marc LaFountain,

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Public Outreach Director at VDEM addressed how to prepare for emergencies as did luncheon keynote speaker, Irma Tetzloff, Administration on Aging Regional Liaison and Disaster Assistance Coordinator.

Afternoon sessions included a lively training on understanding the Hispanic culture conducted by Cathy Brown, Hispanic Outreach Worker for the United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg Information & Referral Center and a best practices sharing by training attendees.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
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FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: National Family Caregiver Support Program and Kinship Care

Brookdale National Group Respite Program

The Brookdale Foundation announces that proposals for funding for dementia specific group respite programs are due to the Foundation by July 6, 2006. Non-profit and public agencies are eligible to apply. Grantees are funded for up to two years (\$7,500 in the first year, renewable \$3,000 in the second). Agencies must develop social model adult day centers. The service must be a new initiative. In addition to direct financial support, grantees receive ongoing technical assistance, and an orientation and training conference. To receive RFP guidelines, a grant application and a copy of the publication *How to Start and Manage a Group Activities and Respite Program for People with Alzheimer's Disease and Their Families*, please contact Evelyn Yuen, TA Resources Manager, Phone (510) 540-734, FAX: (510) 540-6771 or e-mail: ey@brookdalefoundation.org. Further information is also available at the organization's website, www.brookdalefoundation.org.

Caregiving Teleconference Seminar: Caregiver Assessment

Hosted by the National Center on Caregiving at Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA), this conference took place on May 17 with Ellen Nau participating from the Virginia Department for the Aging. Lynn Friss Feinberg, MSW, Deputy Director, National Center on Caregiving and FCA and, Virginia Dize, Associate Director for Home & Community Based Services at the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA) facilitated the teleconference.

The conference was based on two new studies issued by the National Center on Caregiving funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Archstone Foundation and

SUBJECT: National Family Caregiver Support Program and Kinship Care
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The California Endowment. The report advocates that caregiver assessment should be a part of comprehensive care for frail elders or disabled adults. Volume I, *Caregiver Assessment: Principles, Guidelines and Strategies for Change* outlines the agreement among experts for caregiver assessments as a basic component of practice when working with caregivers and their loved ones. Volume II *Caregiver Assessment: Voices and Views from the Field* illustrates from background papers and personal accounts how chronic illness and disability affects the life of caregivers as well as the afflicted individuals. Both reports can be down-loaded at www.caregiver.org.

As proponents of the National Family Caregiver Support program, Area Agencies on Aging are collecting some information on caregivers through the Virginia Caregiver Service Form. The Uniform Assessment Instrument inquires as to whether the client has a caregiver. Some agencies, such as the Valley Program for Aging Services, utilize a caregiver assessment form. Considering that most caregivers are family members and that the aging population is increasing, is it time to expand our efforts in assessing caregiver needs?

Kinship Care

Congratulations to Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia, Inc. in Virginia Beach and Rockingham Memorial Hospital in Harrisonburg for obtaining their second Relatives as Parents Program Grants from the Brookdale Foundation!

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Tim M. Catherman

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Two Grant Opportunities: National Eye Institute and Ethel Louise
Armstrong Foundation

The National Eye Institute (NEI), National Institutes of Health is pleased to announce the 2007 Healthy Vision Community Awards. This Program provides funding for the implementation of health education and health promotion activities that support the Healthy Vision 2010 objectives and the Healthy People 2010 goals to reduce health disparities and improve quality of life.

For more information about the 2007 Healthy Vision Community Awards, visit www.healthyvision2010.org/news/hvca

The focus of the 2007 awards:

- 28-1 Dilated eye examinations
- 28-2 Vision screening for children
- 28-3 Impairment due to refractive errors
- 28-4 Impairment in children and adolescents
- 28-5 Impairment due to diabetic retinopathy
- 28-6 Impairment due to glaucoma
- 28-7 Impairment due to cataract
- 28-8 Occupational eye injury
- 28-9 Protective eyewear
- 28-10 Vision rehabilitation services and devices

Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to apply, including community-based organizations and agencies, minority-based organizations, schools, faith-based organizations, civic and fraternal groups, community clinics, local Agencies on Aging, and local health departments and agencies. Universities and university-affiliates, such as medical centers, schools of optometry and ophthalmology, are precluded from

SUBJECT: Two Grant Opportunities

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receiving an award directly, but are welcome to collaborate with community-based organizations. Each award is not to exceed 10,000.

Applications for 2007 must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than Thursday, August 31, 2006. The final selection of award recipients will be based on the evaluation score, geographic and racial/ethnic representation, and project innovation. Awards will be announced in January 2007.

If you have questions about the application package or eligibility requirements please e-mail your questions or requests to: HVCAMail@shs.net.

Application forms and program information are available at www.healthyvision2010.org/news/hvca

Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation Offers Grants for Programs Serving Adults With Disabilities

Deadline: September 15, 2006 (Online Grant Application Forms)

The vision of the Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation (<http://www.ela.org/>) is "to change the face of disability on the planet." In order to accomplish this vision, ELA's mission is to promote, through grants and scholarships, the inclusion of people with disabilities in the areas of arts, advocacy, and education.

The foundation funds program grants in the areas of arts, advocacy, and education for adults with disabilities (over 22 years old). Applicants must be U.S. nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations that serve people with disabilities and have been in existence for two years or longer. Support from other funding sources in the community for the program must be demonstrated in the grant application.

Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each.

The applicant program must be approved for submission via the foundation's online grant application form in order for the full grant application to be accepted. The grant application form must be submitted online by September 15, 2006, for the November 1 full grant application deadline. No hard copy grant application packets will be accepted unless the program is approved through the online application.

See the ELA Web site for complete grant guidelines, an FAQ, and application procedures.